United Nations A/50/PV.96

General Assembly
Fifteth Session

Official Records

96th plenary meeting
Wednesday, 20 December 1995, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Freitas do Amaral . . . . . (Portugal)

The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

Reports of the Second Committee

The President: This morning the Assembly will consider the reports of the Second Committee on agenda items 94, 95 (a) to (k), 96 (a), (b) and (d) to (f), 97 to 102, and 12.

I request the Rapporteur of the Second Committee to introduce the reports of the Second Committee in one intervention.

Mr. Zoubi (Jordan), Rapporteur of the Second Committee: I have the honour to present to the General Assembly for its consideration the following reports of the Second Committee.

Under agenda item 94, "Macroeconomic policy questions", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 20 of document A/50/616 the adoption of three draft resolutions and in paragraph 21 the adoption of one draft decision.

Document A/50/617 contains the introduction to agenda item 95, "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation".

I would like to make two small corrections to paragraph 3 of the English text of document A/50/617. In the sixth line, the words "and 36th" should be replaced by "to 37th". Also, in the following line, the words "16 November" should read "16 and 17 November" and in the eighth line "A/C.2/50/SR.30-36" should read "A/C.2/50/SR.30-37".

Under agenda item 95 (a), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: trade and development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 21 of document A/50/617/Add.1 the adoption of four draft resolutions, and in paragraph 22 the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 95 (b), "Sustainable development and international economic development: human settlements", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 6 of document A/50/617/Add.2 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 95 (c), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 9 of document A/50/617/Add.3 the adoption of one draft resolution and in paragraph 10 the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 95 (d), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: science and technology for development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 11 of document A/50/617/Add.4 the adoption of two draft resolutions.

95-87087 (E)

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Under agenda item 95 (e), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 9 of document A/50/617/Add.5 the adoption of one draft resolution and in paragraph 10 the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 95 (f), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: women in development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 7 of document A/50/617/Add.6 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 95 (g), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: human resources development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 6 of document A/50/617/Add.7 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 95 (h), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: business and development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 7 of document A/50/617/Add.8 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 95 (i), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 8 of document A/50/617/Add.9 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 95 (j), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 7 of document A/50/617/Add.10 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 95 (k), "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: food and sustainable agriculture", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 7 of document A/50/617/Add.11 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under the chapeau of agenda item 95, "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 8 of document A/50/617/Add.12 the adoption of one draft resolution and in paragraph 9 the adoption of one draft decision.

Document A/50/618 contains the introduction to agenda item 96, "Environment and sustainable development".

Under agenda item 96 (a), "Environment and sustainable development: implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 20 of document A/50/618/Add.1, the adoption of three draft resolutions and in paragraph 21 the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 96 (b), "Environment and sustainable development: desertification and drought", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 8 of document A/50/618/Add.2 the adoption of one draft resolution and in paragraph 9 the adoption of two draft decisions.

Under agenda item 96 (d), "Environment and sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 7 of document A/50/618/Add.3 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 96 (e), "Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 6 of document A/50/618/Add.4 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 96 (f), "Environment and sustainable development: International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 11 of document A/50/618/Add.5 the adoption of two draft resolutions and in paragraph 12 the adoption of one draft decision.

Under the chapeau of agenda item 96, "Environment and sustainable development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 7 of document A/50/618/Add.6 the adoption of one draft resolution and in paragraph 8, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 97, "Operational activities for development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 17 of document A/50/619 the adoption of three draft resolutions and in paragraph 18 the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 98, "Training and research: United Nations Institute for Training and Research", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 9 of document A/50/620 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Document A/50/621 contains the report of the Second Committee on agenda item 99, "Agenda for development". The Committee took no action under this item.

Under agenda item 100, "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 10 of document A/50/622 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 101, "International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 9 of document A/50/623 the adoption of one draft resolution. In connection with this report, I should like to make two small corrections to paragraph 7. The symbols of the documents cited in that paragraph should refer to the fiftieth session of the General Assembly and should therefore read "A/C.2/50/L.12" and "A/C.2/50/L.26".

Under agenda item 102, "Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 10 of document A/50/624 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 12, "Report of the Economic and Social Council", the General Assembly has before it Part II of the report of the Second Committee, contained in document A/50/615/Add.1. In paragraph 26 of that report the Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of five draft resolutions and in paragraph 27 the adoption of two draft decisions.

Under this item, the Assembly also has before it document A/50/615/Add.2, in paragraph 4 of which the Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of one draft decision.

I should like to inform the General Assembly that during this session the Second Committee adopted 42 draft proposals, all of which except two were adopted by consensus.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Second Committee for their contribution to the work of the Committee, and also to pay tribute to the Chairman, His Excellency Mr. Goce Petreski of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and to the two Vice-Chairmen, Mr. Conor Murphy of Ireland and Mr. Max Stadhagen González of Nicaragua, for their diligence and dedication throughout the session and for the manner in which they steered our meetings to a successful conclusion. I would like to add that it was an educational experience for me to work closely with these three fine gentlemen. My thanks go also to the members of the Secretariat for their unswerving assistance and endeavours.

The President: If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Second Committee that are before it today.

It was so decided.

The President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote or position.

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Second Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records. May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401 the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee".

May I also remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Second Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we shall proceed to take decisions in the same manner as in the Committee. This means that where recorded votes were taken we will do the same. I would also hope that the Assembly may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Second Committee.

Agenda item 94

Macroeconomic policy questions

Report of the Second Committee (A/50/616)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 20 of its report and on the draft decision recommended in paragraph 21.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Global financial integration: challenges and opportunities".

Draft resolution I was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I consider that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/91).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries".

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/92).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Sources for the financing of development".

Draft resolution III was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 50/93).

The President: We turn now to the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee for adoption in paragraph 21 of document A/50/616. The draft decision is entitled "Documents relating to macroeconomic policy questions".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 94?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 95

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Report of the Second Committee (Parts I and XIII) (A/50/617 and A/50/617/Add.12)

The President: The Assembly will first consider Part I of the report of the Second Committee (A/50/617).

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of Part I of the report of the Second Committee?

It was so decided.

The President: We now turn to Part XIII of the report of the Second Committee (A/50/617/Add.12).

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 8 of Part XIII of its report and on the draft decision recommended in paragraph 9.

The Assembly will first turn to the draft resolution, "Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa".

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/94).

The President: The Assembly will now turn to the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of Part XIII of its report. The draft decision is entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the

programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

(a) Trade and development

Report of the Second Committee (Part II) (A/50/617/Add.1)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the four draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 21 of Part II of its report and on the draft decision recommended in paragraph 22.

The Assembly will first turn to draft resolution I, entitled "International trade and development".

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/95).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries".

We shall now begin the voting process.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Gabon, Georgia, Greece, Kazakstan, Malta, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey

Draft resolution II was adopted by 100 votes to 30, with 22 abstentions (resolution 50/96).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Cape Verde and the United Republic of Tanzania informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries".

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 50/97).

The President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development".

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 50/98).

The President: We now turn to the draft decision contained in paragraph 22 of the report, which the Second Committee recommended for adoption by the General Assembly.

The draft decision is entitled "Note by the Secretary-General on negotiations on an international code of conduct on transfer of technology".

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: I now call on the representative of Spain, who wishes to make a statement in explanation of position.

Ms. Menendez (Spain) (*interpretation from Spanish*): I have the honour of speaking on behalf of the European Union following the adoption of draft resolution III in document A/50/617/Add.1, entitled, "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries".

The European Union joined the consensus on this resolution, but wishes to make it clear that we do not believe that geographical conditions in themselves can be the basis for creating a category of countries. The European Union therefore reiterates that it does not recognize the category of "land-locked developing country" as a separate and distinct category in the context of the United Nations.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(b) Human settlements

Report of the Second Committee (Part III) (A/50/617/Add.2)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of Part III of its report.

The draft resolution, entitled "Commission on Human Settlements", was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/99).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(c) United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Report of the Second Committee (Part IV) (A/50/617/Add.3)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of Part IV of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 10.

We turn first to the draft resolution contained in paragraph 9 of Part IV of the report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/100).

The President: We now turn to the draft decision contained in paragraph 10 of Part IV of the report. The draft decision is entitled "Note by the Secretary-General

transmitting the report of the regional commissions on the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at the regional level".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(d) Science and technology for development

Report of the Second Committee (Part V) (A/50/617/Add.4)

The President: We turn now to the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee for adoption in paragraph 11 of Part V of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Science and technology for development".

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/101).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa".

Draft resolution II was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/102).

The President: I now call on the representative of the United States, who wishes to make a statement in explanation of position.

Mr. Dugan (United States of America): The United States delegation wishes to register a reservation on operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution entitled "Science and technology for development", contained on page 9 of document A/50/617/Add.40.

The United States delegation wishes to reaffirm that whenever the term "sustained economic growth" appears in the draft resolution, it is the understanding of the United States that the term refers to growth in the context of sustainable development. This would be consistent with paragraph 6 of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development as affirmed at the World Summit for Social Development. The Copenhagen paragraph reads as follows:

> "We are deeply convinced that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which is the framework for our efforts to achieve a higher quality of life for all people ...." *(A/CONF.166/9, annex I)*

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(e) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Report of the Second Committee (Part VI) (A/50/617/Add.5)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of Part VI of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 10.

We turn first to the draft resolution, entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s". The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/103).

The President: The draft decision is entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the mid-term global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(f) Women in development

Report of the Second Committee (Part VII) (A/50/617/Add.6)

The President: We turn now to the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee for adoption in paragraph 7 of Part VII of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/104).

The President: I shall now call on those representatives who wish to make statements in explanation of position.

Ms. Menendez (Spain) *(interpretation from Spanish):* The European Union joined in the consensus on the draft resolution in document A/50/617/Add.6, entitled "Women in development", despite the fact that there is no reference in the draft resolution to paragraph 51 of the Platform for Action adopted at Beijing. We would have liked to see such a reference included in the preamble to the draft resolution.

Mr. Cabactulan (Philippines): The Group of 77 and China welcomes the adoption of the draft resolution entitled "Women in development". We believe that the sixth preambular paragraph deals with the question of overall discrimination against women, including discriminatory practices against women on the issue of inheritance.

While we recognize the continued discrimination against women, we believe that the issue of inheritance should not be addressed out of context. We believe also that the Beijing Conference struck a balance and a formulation that should be acceptable to all.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (f) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(g) Human resources development

Report of the Second Committee (Part VIII) (A/50/617/Add.7)

The President: We turn now to the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee for adoption in paragraph 6 of Part VIII of its report. The draft resolution is entitled "Developing human resources for development".

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/105).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (g) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(h) Business and development

Report of the Second Committee (Part IX) (A/50/617/Add.8)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee for adoption in paragraph 7 of Part IX of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/106).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration sub-item (h) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(i) International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries

Report of the Second Committee (Part X) (A/50/617/Add.9)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 8 of Part X of its report.

The draft resolution is entitled "Observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and proclamation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty".

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/107).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (i) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(j) United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation

Report of the Second Committee (Part XI) (A/50/617/Add.10)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of Part XI of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/108).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (j) of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

(k) Food and sustainable agricultural development

Report of the Second Committee (Part XII) (A/50/617/Add.11)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of Part XII of its report.

The draft resolution, entitled "World Food Summit", was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/109).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (k) of agenda item 95 and of agenda item 95 as a whole?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 96 (continued)

Environment and sustainable development

Report of the Second Committee (Parts I and VII) (A/50/618 and A/50/618/Add.6)

The President: We shall first consider Part I of the report of the Second Committee on agenda item 96 (A/50/618).

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of Part I of the report of the Second Committee on agenda item 96?

It was so decided.

The President: We now turn to Part VII of the report of the Second Committee on agenda item 96 (A/50/618/Add.6).

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of Part VII of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 8.

The Assembly will turn first to the draft resolution entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme".

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/110).

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 8 of the report.

The draft decision is entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

(a) Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Report of the Second Committee (Part II) (A/50/618/Add.1)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/831)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 20 of Part II of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 21.

The Assembly will turn first to the three draft resolutions contained in paragraph 20 of Part II of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/111).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa".

Draft resolution II was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/112).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21".

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of this draft resolution is contained in document A/50/831.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 50/113).

The President: We turn now to the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee for adoption in paragraph 21 of Part II of its report.

The draft decision is entitled "Notes by the Secretary-General on the elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 96?

It was so decided.

(b) Desertification and drought

Report of the Second Committee (Part III) (A/50/618/Add.2)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 8 of Part III of its report and on the two draft decisions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9.

We turn first to the draft resolution contained in paragraph 8 of Part III of the report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/114).

The President: We turn now to the two draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of Part II of its report.

Draft decision I is entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on observance of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought: implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/115".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision I?

Draft decision I was adopted.

The President: Draft decision II is entitled "Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on the overall implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, including implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision II?

Draft decision II was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 96?

It was so decided.

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Report of the Second Committee (Part IV) (A/50/618/Add.3)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/823)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of Part IV of its report.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution is contained in document A/50/823.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/115).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 96?

It was so decided.

(e) Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Second Committee (Part V) (A/50/618/Add.4)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of Part V of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/116).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 96?

It was so decided.

(f) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

Report of the Second Committee (Part VI) (A/50/618/Add.5)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions A and B, recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 11 of Part VI of its report, and on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 12.

We turn first to draft resolution A, contained in paragraph 11 of Part VI of the report. It is entitled "International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction".

Draft resolution A was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution A was adopted (resolution 117 A).

The President: We turn now to draft resolution B, also on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

Draft resolution B was adopted by the Second Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution B was adopted (resolution 50/117 B).

Mr. Dlamini (Swaziland): I apologize for interrupting the President while he is performing his noble task here in the Assembly. However, my delegation would like to place it on record that we do not have the English versions of some of the documents on which the President is asking the Assembly to take action. If you intend to conclude the voting at this time, Mr. President, I thought you should know that, because of the lack of documents, not all delegations are able to participate in the decisions knowledgeably.

The President: I have made inquiries and have been informed that all the documents being considered were made available prior to this meeting.

Mr. Dlamini (Swaziland): I regret to say that, despite that confirmation from the President, I have been to the documents desk several times and have been told that the English set of documents is incomplete. The documents officer told me that they are expecting the missing documents. I can produce the officer to whom I talked. It is not the habit of my delegation to make any statement that is untrue.

I have given a paper to the documents officer, who has been here, at our seat, which lists the documents we do not have, and, in addition, I have personally gone to the documents desk. I have a few of the documents, but I do not have the lot.

The President: I have been informed by the Secretariat that they were convinced that all the relevant documents had been distributed to all delegations. Perhaps there has been a mistake that affected only the delegation of Swaziland. May I crave the indulgence of the representative of Swaziland in allowing us to proceed with the meeting.

Mr. Dlamini (Swaziland): I wish to crave the indulgence of the President. Our purpose in drawing the President's attention to this situation was not in any way to hinder the progress of the Assembly but merely to place it on record that we do not have the English

versions of some of the documents and that we have fully confirmed and reconfirmed this.

With due respect to the presidency, my delegation will yield to the President's persuasiveness, but I must insist that the matter I have raised be placed on the record.

The President: I thank the representative of Swaziland.

We turn now to the draft decision entitled "Report of the Secretary-General concerning the core functions of the secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/47 B", which is recommended by the Second Committee for adoption in paragraph 12 of document A/50/618/Add.5.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (f) of agenda item 96 and of agenda item 96 as a whole?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 97

Operational activities for development

Report of the Second Committee (A/50/619)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 17 of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 18.

We turn first to the three draft resolutions in paragraph 17 of the report.

Draft resolution I, "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/118).

The President: Draft resolution II, "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/119).

The President: Draft resolution III, "Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 50/120).

The President: We now turn to the draft decision contained in paragraph 18 of document A/50/619. It is entitled "Documents relating to operational activities for development".

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 97?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 98

Training and Research: United Nations Institute For Training and Research

Report of the Second Committee (A/50/620)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

The draft resolution, entitled "United Nations Institute for Training and Research", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/121).

The President: I call on the representative of Spain, who wishes to make a statement in explanation of vote.

Ms. Menendez (Spain) (*interpretation from Spanish*): I am speaking on behalf of the European Union.

The European Union joined in the consensus on the draft resolution contained in document A/50/620, on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. However, we wish to reiterate that we feel that this item should be considered and studied biennially and not annually, as at present — especially since the other question under this agenda item, namely, the United Nations University, has been considered biennially for some time.

We sincerely hope that next year, with further progress made in the Institute's restructuring, serious consideration will be given to examining this item biennially.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 98?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 99

Agenda for development

Report of the Second Committee (A/50/621)

The President: In paragraph 4, of its report, the Second Committee informs the Assembly that no action was taken by the Committee under agenda item 99.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to take note of the report of the Second Committee and to conclude its consideration of agenda item 99?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 100

Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Report of the Second Committee (A/50/622)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 10 of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/122).

The President: I now call on the representative of Indonesia, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote.

Mr. Poernomo (Indonesia): My delegation is particularly enthusiastic about speaking now because we know that, with the agreement reached at this session of the General Assembly to renew the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership, a further step has been taken towards the implementation of the resolution on this subject. The resolution, which calls, *inter alia*, for the holding of a high-level dialogue for a period of two days at the fifty-first session of the General Assembly on the theme of the social and economic impact of globalization and interdependence and their policy implications, constitutes an important landmark that we have been advocating over the past two years.

The adoption of this resolution demonstrates the international community's determination to recognize that in promoting development in these vastly changed times, with rapidly growing interdependence, there is no alternative to a constructive dialogue based on the imperatives of mutual interest and benefits, shared responsibilities and genuine interdependence. We believe that the much-lauded spirit of partnership, which has been manifested in numerous intergovernmental forums over the past two years, will be further strengthened and more broadly embraced when such a dialogue is held in the General Assembly.

We consider that this first dialogue is a critical and necessary step towards ensuring that the process of fulfilling the commitments to cooperation for development will steadily move forward. In this respect, we believe it is indispensable that the preparations for the dialogue be undertaken well in advance by the Secretariat. I should add that since this is the first of a series of dialogues it is extremely important that we succeed. We should therefore spare no effort to ensure a successful outcome.

I would like to stress one further point: the linkages between the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Agenda for Development, on the one hand, and the dialogue, on the other, as stated in the resolution. Obviously, the dialogue and the Agenda should be mutually supportive. Indeed, the renewal of such a dialogue could well serve as a critical instrument for implementing the Agenda for Development; and the Agenda should greatly help by providing a supportive framework for conducting the dialogue within the United Nations. As such, the dialogue would also help to bolster the central role of the General Assembly in advancing international economic cooperation for development.

Having said that, I would only like to add that my delegation looks forward to the first high-level dialogue, which is to take place at the fifty-first session of the General Assembly. Thus, we would like to express our readiness to actively participate in the dialogue, to which we attach great importance, especially in the pursuit of our common objective of improving the well-being of all mankind.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 100?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 101

International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/50/623)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

The draft resolution, entitled "International migration and development", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/123).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 101?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 102

Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Report of the Second Committee (A/50/624)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 10 of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/124).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 102?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 12 *(continued)*

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Second Committee (Parts I and III) (A/50/615/Add.1 and Add.2)

The President: I now draw members' attention to Parts II and III of the report of the Second Committee on

agenda item 12 (A/50/615/Add.1 and Add.2), which concerns the report of the Economic and Social Council.

I shall put the recommendations of the Second Committee to the Assembly one by one. After all the decisions have been taken, representatives will have the opportunity to explain their vote or position.

The President: We first turn to part II of the report (A/50/615/Add.1).

The Assembly has before it five draft resolutions contained in paragraph 26 of Part II of the report and two draft decisions contained in paragraph 27.

The Assembly will first take a decision on the five draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 26 of Part II of its report.

Draft resolution I, entitled "Water supply and sanitation", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/126).

The President: Draft resolution II, entitled "Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1997-1998", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/127).

The President: Draft resolution III, entitled "Preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 50/128).

The President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan".

We shall now begin the voting process.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominica, El Salvador, Gabon, Georgia, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Latvia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nepal, Panama, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Suriname, Ukraine, Uruguay

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 126 votes to 2, with 28 abstentions (resolution 50/129).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Solomon Islands informed the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain.]

The President: Draft resolution V, entitled "Communication for development programmes in the United Nations system", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 50/130).

The President: We shall now turn to the two draft decisions contained in paragraph 27 of document A/50/615/Add.1.

Draft decision I is entitled "United Nations Population Fund: institutional arrangements".

Draft decision I was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision I was adopted.

The President: Draft decision II, entitled "Documents relating to the report of the Economic and Social Council", was adopted by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft decision II was adopted.

The President: We now turn to Part III of the report (A/50/615/Add.2).

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 4 of Part III of its report.

The draft decision is entitled "Biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 1996-1997".

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of the chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council allocated to the Second Committee?

It was so decided.

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Second Committee.

Agenda item 34

United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa

Report of the Secretary-General (A/50/750)

Draft resolution (A/50/L.65)

The President: I now call on the representative of Norway, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa, to introduce draft resolution A/50/L.65.

Mr. Biørn Lian (Norway): In my capacity as Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA), I am pleased to introduce the report of the Secretary-General contained in document A/50/750 and the draft resolution contained in document A/50/L.65. I have been informed that since the draft resolution was printed, some additional countries have indicated that they will co-sponsor it. These countries are: Guyana, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America. This wide range of co-sponsoring countries from different regional groups reflects the broad support of the international community for the important work of this Programme.

I would like to point out at the outset that this will be the final report submitted to the General Assembly. As soon as its recommendations are endorsed and the attendant resolution adopted by the General Assembly, UNETPSA will cease to be considered as a General Assembly item. Allow me therefore to provide a brief historical overview of the Programme.

By resolution 2349 (XXII) of December 1967, UNETPSA was established by integrating earlier special programmes aimed at assisting persons from Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe and from Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique while the countries were under Portuguese administration. The following year, by resolution 2431 (XXIII), the Trust Fund for UNETPSA and the Advisory Committee were established. Norway has consistently been one of the major donors to the Trust Fund and in 1980 succeeded Canada as Chair of the Advisory Committee.

Over the last 27 years since its inception, UNETPSA has trained close to 10,000 individuals from southern Africa. The Programme can be proud of having trained individuals who later assumed leadership roles such as a prime minister and a foreign minister and other cabinet ministers in some of these countries upon independence. In the case of South Africa, several national ministerial cabinet posts and provincial premierships are being held by individuals who have benefited from the Programme. Some of these UNETPSA graduates were trained in the front-line States and others received their training abroad. Other graduates are senior administrators of universities and *technikons*. Still others could be found managing the local and regional peace committees and structures which were established under the National Peace Accord. In this capacity, they provided essential cooperation during the United Nations preventive diplomacy and peace-building period preceding the April 1994 elections.

When the Programme was established, it called for training in the sectors which had previously been neglected for the disadvantaged majority. These sectors include agriculture, law, engineering, agronomy, public administration, education, business and industrial management. UNETPSA has indeed remained true to these sectors as priority fields of study. The Programme has also recently stressed a multi-pronged approach to capacity- and institution-building of the historically disadvantaged institutions and non-governmental organizations by training individuals at these institutions and by upgrading academic staff, particularly in mathematics and sciences, as well as the administrative staff of the universities and *technikons* concerned. Particular attention is given to the role of women in development.

I wish now to refer to the report before the Assembly. It will be noted that chapters I through IV introduce the Programme and its activities during the period 1 September 1994 through 31 August 1995. Chapter V contains the conclusions and recommendations regarding the future of the Programme. These recommendations were called for by resolution 49/17, operative paragraph 8, which invited the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the future role of the Programme.

The recommendations are encapsulated in operative paragraphs 2 through 8 of the draft resolution now before us. For the purpose of integrating the goals of the programme with the overall multilateral development programmes of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the draft resolution calls for the transfer of the management of UNETPSA and its funds as well as the decision-making authority to UNDP as soon as possible, but no later than 1 May 1996. The draft resolution also calls for the extension under UNDP of the present mandate for a period of three to five years, while retaining the Programme as an identifiable entity. The Programme should continue with its focus on human-resource development, with the objective of capacity- and institution-building among the historically disadvantaged sectors of the population.

Allow me to express, on behalf of the Advisory Committee, our appreciation to those Member States, organizations and institutions which have contributed to the success of the Programme. I would also like to express, again on behalf of the Advisory Committee, our gratitude for the persistent efforts of, and the valuable assistance given to the Programme by, the Secretary-General and the UNETPSA staff. Particular appreciation should be expressed to the Officer-in-Charge, Ms. Angela Masithela. I am confident that those staff in the Department of Development Support and Management Services (DDSMS) whose posts will be abolished as a result of this administrative streamlining will be given priority in the ensuing redeployment.

Finally, the Advisory Committee is pleased that, as a result of the transfer of UNETPSA to UNDP, its mandate will be completed and the Committee will be discontinued.

As South Africa strives to overcome the legacy of decades of apartheid, I would like to underscore the importance of the continued provision of assistance by the international community. The magnitude and urgency of the training and educational needs facing the country are enormous. Many challenges must still be faced before our vision of the new South Africa can become a reality. Prominent among these challenges is the need to provide sustained opportunities to enable the disadvantaged young

South Africans to gain equal access to the education and skills necessary to improve their lives and to enable them to take a full part in the development of their new democratic and non-racial society. The continued commitment of the international community is vital to help meet this challenge.

Mr. Zulueta (Spain) (*interpretation from Spanish*): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union.

The European Union has noted with satisfaction the report of the Secretary-General (A/50/750) of 7 December 1995 on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa. That report underlines the important contribution the Programme has made in recent years towards fostering the educational needs of disadvantaged students from South Africa, and towards overcoming the legacy of apartheid. Furthermore, the report defines the proper framework in which the goals of the Programme can be integrated into the overall context of multilateral development programmes, with a view, in particular, to meeting the urgent need to contribute effectively to the immense human-resources requirements of the new, non-racial and democratic South Africa.

States members of the European Union have contributed substantially over the years to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa. The European Union considers that the need to improve the educational system is a long-term development priority and would therefore best be addressed through the continued assistance of the international community and United Nations agencies now operating in the new South Africa.

The European Union welcomes draft resolution A/50/L.65, on the Programme, which we hope will be adopted by consensus today, and we commend the decision taken by the Advisory Committee on the future of the Programme, which the European Union believes is a step in the right direction.

The European Union attaches particular importance to the decision to transfer, no later than 1 May 1996, the management of the Programme and its funds and of the decision-making authority to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the Executive Board of UNDP. We also note the decision to endorse the activities of the Programme and to request UNDP to continue to place the primary focus of the Programme on human resource development aimed at capacity- and institution-building by contributing to South Africa's human resources.

We wish to pay tribute on this occasion to the staff of the Programme and to the Advisory Committee, in particular to its Chairman, for their outstanding work over the years.

It is the sincere wish of the European Union that the valuable contribution that the Programme has made to improve the economic and social development of southern Africa through the educational sector will continue within UNDP.

Mr. Mbatha (South Africa): On behalf of the Government of South Africa, I wish to thank all donor countries that have over the years rendered valuable assistance to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa. We also wish to express our gratitude to the Secretary-General, the Advisory Board of the Programme and all organizations, agencies and individuals that have cooperated with and made contributions to the success of the Programme.

Indeed, the Programme has made considerable progress; hundreds of students in southern Africa have benefitted from the Programme. With the birth of a new South Africa, the newly established Department of Education took the first step to deal at the national level with education and training: the Government made education free and compulsory for the first 10 years of schooling. The Reconstruction and Development Programme of the Government of National Unity provides for education and training components being built into many of its projects, such as public works and youth programmes. In the endeavour to restructure education and to eliminate the distortions and inadequacies in that area, the assistance that the United Nations Programme has provided was and still is indispensable.

Therefore, we welcome the decision to extend the Trust Fund as an identifiable entity within and under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In this way those still being supported by the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa will be able to finish their studies by the year 1999. We support the call for the continuation of fund-raising and the mobilization of resources in order to further the aims and objectives of the Programme. In this connection we would hope that donors will be as generous in their

support for the Programme as they have been in past years.

Mr. Dlamini (Swaziland): The importance of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa cannot be overemphasized. As previous speakers have clearly and ably outlined, it is of great significance for southern Africa.

Swaziland, a State that is a neighbour of the countries that were affected whenever efforts to liberalize southern Africa were undertaken, feels it should congratulate the founders of the Trust Fund and express our heartfelt gratitude to them. It is our hope that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), having displayed its abilities in a number of development fields, will pick up where the United Nations Educational and Training Programme has left off. It is our desire and our prayer that the countries that have benefitted will continue the uncompleted tasks before them. Drought has continued to militate against their efforts, and they still need to be assisted in upgrading their educational aims.

It is our hope that, through the UNDP, stress will be placed on some areas not hitherto covered in the curricula, which are necessary to upgrade the development of the countries that have benefitted from the Educational Programme and that will continue to benefit under UNDP. We pray that greater efforts will be made to investigate thoroughly the question of whether all problems in the educational field have been addressed through the Fund.

The President: We have heard the last speaker in the debate on this item.

We shall now proceed to consider draft resolution A/50/L.65.

I should like to announce that since the introduction of draft resolution A/50/L.65 Mozambique and Namibia have become sponsors.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.65?

Draft resolution A/50/L.65 was adopted (resolution 50/131).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 34?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 45 (*continued*)

The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

Report of the Secretary-General (A/50/499)

Note by the Secretary-General (A/50/482)

Draft resolution (A/50/L.17/Rev.1)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/826)

The President: Members will recall that the Assembly concluded the debate on agenda item 45 at its 54th plenary meeting, on 9 November 1995.

We shall now proceed to consider draft resolution A/50/L.17/Rev.1. The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution is contained in document A/50/826.

The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.17/Rev.1. I should like to announce that, since the introduction of the draft resolution, the following countries have become co-sponsors: Brazil and Peru.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.17/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.17/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/132).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 45?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 41 (*continued*)

Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Report of the Secretary-General (A/50/332 and Corr.1)

Draft resolution (A/50/L.19/Rev.1)

The President: Members will recall that the Assembly concluded its debate on agenda item 41 at its 56th plenary meeting, on 13 November 1995.

The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.19/Rev.1.

I should like to announce that the following countries have become co-sponsors of this draft resolution: Belize, Canada, Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama and Sweden.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.19/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.19/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/133).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 41?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 20 (*continued*)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Reports of the Secretary-General (A/50/286, A/50/292, A/50/447, A/50/763)

Draft resolutions (A/50/L.41/Rev.1, A/50/L.54, A/50/L.56/Rev.1)

(c) Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

Report of the Secretary-General (A/50/418)

Draft resolution (A/50/L.26/Rev.1)

The President: I now call on the representative of Gabon to introduce draft resolution A/50/L.56/Rev.1.

Mr. Dangue Rewaka (Gabon) (*interpretation from French*): It is a pleasure and honour for me to introduce draft resolution A/50/L.56/Rev.1, entitled "Assistance for the reconstruction of Madagascar following the natural disasters of 1994", on behalf of the following sponsors: Benin, Burkina Faso, Congo, Cuba, France, Gabon, India, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mongolia and South Africa.

As members will recall, several cyclones, accompanied by tremendous floods, struck Madagascar in 1993 and particularly in 1994, leading to the destruction of most of the island and ruining several years of effort which that country had devoted to development. In view of the scope of the damage, which was far beyond Madagascar's means to repair, its Government had to seek aid from the international community.

While recognizing the efforts made, it should be said that — as emphasized by the Secretary-General in his report in document A/50/292 — the resources mobilized remain generally inadequate. Madagascar is still fragile and vulnerable to the impact of natural disasters.

Because the situation has changed little, the draft resolution before us recalls resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to provide emergency assistance to Madagascar to enable it to engage in the efforts necessary for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the areas affected by cyclones and floods.

The operative part of the draft resolution urges all States and governmental and non-governmental organizations, together with United Nations organizations, programmes and specialized agencies, to increase their support to the Government of Madagascar. It also requests the Secretary-General to continue his

efforts to mobilize the necessary resources to achieve these objectives.

The sponsors of draft resolution A/50/L.56/Rev.1 sincerely hope that the Assembly will adopt this text by consensus, as it did last year.

The President: I now call on the representative of Spain to introduce draft resolution A/50/L.54.

Mr. Aguirre de Carcer (Spain) *(interpretation from Spanish):* I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union.

The peace process in the Middle East, which was initiated at the Madrid Peace Conference in October 1991, has made new and historic progress with the agreements signed directly by the parties. Most recently, the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, signed on 28 September 1995 — and this was witnessed by the European Union — has already had tangible results. The European Union has constantly and unreservedly supported and participated in the peace process.

If the peace process is to be successful, political negotiation must be accompanied by economic and social progress and a reduction in the disparities existing among the peoples of the region. On the bilateral as well as on the multilateral level, the European Union has provided support to the process, and we intend to continue to encourage the parties to take on greater responsibilities in their efforts to contribute to the economic development of the region as a whole.

In the meantime, assistance to the Palestinian people continues to be an urgent need. It is essential for the Palestinian people to see each day in a concrete way the positive effects on their lives of the political changes taking place.

As the main contributor of assistance to the Palestinian people the European Union reaffirms its commitment to continuing to provide economic and financial support and its willingness to study the most effective ways to meet the needs of the Palestinian people. We appeal to other States that have contributed in the past to increase their support, and to those that have not done so in the past to contribute to social and economic assistance to the Palestinian people.

For this reason, the European Union is pleased to introduce and to co-sponsor draft resolution A/50/L.54, entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people". We shall be particularly pleased if, as a result of the new spirit of cooperation, the draft resolution is adopted by consensus.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions A/50/L.26/Rev.1, A/50/L.41/Rev.1, A/50/L.54 and A/50/L.56/Rev.1 one at a time, under the respective sub-item.

Under sub-item (b), the Assembly will first take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.41/Rev.1, entitled "Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.41/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.41/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/58 G).

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.54, entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people". I should like to announce that since the introduction of draft resolution A/50/L.54 India has become a co-sponsor.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.54?

Draft resolution A/50/L.54 was adopted (resolution 50/58 H).

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.56/Rev.1 entitled "Assistance for the reconstruction of Madagascar following the natural disasters of 1994".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.56/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.56/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/58 I).

The President: Under sub-item (c), the Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.26/Rev.1, entitled "Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.26/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.26/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/134)

The President: I shall now call on those representatives who wish to make statements in explanation of position on the draft resolutions just adopted.

May I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Mr. Eliashiv (Israel): For many years now, Israel has been cooperating fully with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), as well as with other international organizations, in implementing programmes aimed at improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In this respect, my delegation believes that the United Nations Special Coordinator in the West Bank and Gaza can play a significant role in achieving the social and economic goals set out by these organizations.

It is our view that the United Nations should increase its efforts and funding to assist the Palestinians in the territories, thus facilitating the successful implementation of the Declaration of Principles.

Israel fully supports and encourages extending economic, financial and technical assistance to the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. We welcome the concerted efforts of Member States, international financial institutions, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to aid in the development of the West Bank and Gaza.

We have made a genuine effort to reach a consensus on draft resolution A/50/L.54, which addresses the important issue of assistance to the Palestinian people. We believe that economic and social progress can be advanced only through cooperation. Economic development and improved living conditions in the territories will encourage peace and stability in the region.

However, Israel's participation in the consensus on the draft resolution should not be construed as implying any position regarding the present status of the territories referred to as the "occupied territories". Additionally, our support does not carry any implication regarding Israel's position concerning the permanent status of those territories, which, in accordance with the Declaration of Principles signed on 13 September 1993, is a matter to be negotiated between Israel and the PLO.

With regard to operative paragraph 9, we hope that the proposed United Nations-sponsored seminar will be organized by an appropriate United Nations body acceptable to all parties.

The Declaration of Principles and the subsequent Agreements signed by Israel and the PLO, as well as the Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty are momentous breakthroughs that open new vistas for economic and social progress, cooperation, prosperity and peace for our region.

Mr. Amer (Libyan Arab Jamahariya) (*interpretation from Arabic*): My delegation has joined the general consensus on the adoption of the draft resolution contained in document A/50/L.54 concerning assistance to the Palestinian people. However, my delegation would like to put on record the fact that this position of ours cannot mean in any manner whatsoever recognition of Israel or welcome for the peace process now taking place in the Middle East or to any references to that peace process in the text.

Mr. Hadji Karim Djabbary (Islamic Republic of Iran): My delegation joined in the consensus on draft resolution A/50/L.54. However, we would like to express our reservations regarding those paragraphs of the resolution which might be construed as recognition of Israel.

The President: We have heard the last speaker in explanation of position.

In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974 and 43/177 of 15 December 1988, I now call on the observer of Palestine.

Mrs. Barghouti (Palestine) (*interpretation from Arabic*): The observer delegation of Palestine wishes to take this opportunity to extend thanks to all those delegations which co-sponsored the draft resolution contained in document A/50/L.54 entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people" and for the unanimous adoption of the resolution. This undoubtedly reflects the continuing support by the international community to the Palestinian people, in response to its urgent needs and particularly in this transitional period in our struggle.

I should also like to take this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation to the member States of the European Union and to India for co-sponsoring this draft resolution. Their position and solidarity with the Palestinian people in its just struggle to obtain its inalienable rights deserve the highest appreciation from the national Palestinian authority, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the Palestinian people as a whole.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 20?

It was so decided.

The President: Action on other draft resolutions submitted under sub-item (b) of agenda item 20 will be taken on Friday, 22 December 1995.

Programme of work

The President: I should like to inform members that on Thursday, 21 December 1995, in the afternoon, the General Assembly will take up — in addition to the items announced in today's *Journal* — agenda item 43, "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity", for the purpose of taking action on draft resolution A/50/L.51/Rev.1, which will become available in the course of the day.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

United Nations A/50/PV.97

General Assembly

Fiftieth Session

Official Records

97th plenary meeting
Thursday, 21 December 1995, 3 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Freitas do Amaral ..... (Portugal)

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

Reports of the Third Committee

The President: This afternoon, the General Assembly will consider the reports of the Third Committee on agenda items 103 to 106 and 108 to 111.

I request the Rapporteur of the Third Committee to introduce the reports of the Third Committee in one intervention.

Mr. Mohamed (Sudan), Rapporteur of the Third Committee: It is an honour for me to present the reports of the Third Committee under agenda items 103, 104, 105, 106, 108, 109, 110 and 111. I would like to inform you, Mr. President, and, through you, the members of the General Assembly that the remaining part of my report will be introduced in one statement tomorrow afternoon.

Under agenda item 103, "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 23 of document A/50/626 the adoption of three draft resolutions and in paragraph 24 the adoption of one draft decision. A correction should be made to paragraph 2 of the report. In the list of summary record documents, document A/C.3/50/SR.15 should be added.

Under agenda item 104, "Right of peoples to self-determination", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 22 of document A/50/627 the adoption of three draft resolutions.

Under agenda item 105, "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 25 of document A/50/628 the adoption of four draft resolutions and in paragraph 26 the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 106, "Crime prevention and criminal justice", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 22 of document A/50/629 the adoption of three draft resolutions and in paragraph 23 the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 108, "International drug control", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 10 of document A/50/631 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 109, "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 26 of document A/50/632 the adoption of four draft resolutions.

In connection with draft resolution A/C.3/50/L.20/Rev.1, under agenda item 109, the Chairman of the Third Committee made the following statement:

> "As all delegations are aware, Ukraine had expressed concern regarding operative paragraph 23

95-87099 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one month of the date of the meeting*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, Room C-178. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

of draft resolution A/C.3/50/L.20/Rev.1 on the 'Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' and had intended to pursue an amendment to this paragraph. In the spirit of cooperation and not to reopen a draft resolution which was passed by consensus, it has been agreed that, provided their concerns and understanding regarding operative paragraph 23 of that draft resolution were clearly understood, they would not pursue an amendment to the current text of the draft resolution.

"In this regard, I wish to state that the reference to the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States at the end of operative paragraph 23 pertains to those States which are party to the Convention referred to in the paragraph. This has been agreed to by all concerned.

"I wish to thank Ukraine and all other delegations for their understanding and cooperation and for making it possible to maintain intact an important resolution."

Under agenda item 110, "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 13 of document A/50/633 the adoption of two draft resolutions.

There is a correction to be made in draft resolution I. The original eighteenth preambular paragraph should be reinstated. This paragraph reads as follows:

"Further alarmed, in particular, by the exploitation of child labour in its most extreme forms, including forced labour, bonded labour and other forms of slavery,".

The nineteenth preambular paragraph, which had read

"Expressing the will, at the national and international levels, to end the exploitation of child labour",

should be revised to read as follows:

"Encouraged by measures taken by Governments to eradicate the economic exploitation of child labour".

With respect to draft resolution II, the following delegations should be added to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Germany, Guyana, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mali, the Marshall Islands, the Netherlands, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom and Uruguay.

Under agenda item 111, "Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 10 of document A/50/634 the adoption of two draft resolutions. I wish to inform that a few corrections have been brought to my attention by the delegations of India and of the Russian Federation. I shall endeavour to make the appropriate corrections.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the delegations in the Third Committee, in particular those which helped me with the preparation of the reports before the General Assembly. I would like also to thank the secretariat of the Third Committee — Kate Starr Newell, Vivian Pliner-Josephs, Alexandre De Barros and all the support staff — for helping me get these reports ready for introduction today.

As I said earlier, I shall introduce additional reports of the Third Committee at tomorrow afternoon's plenary meeting.

The President: If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Third Committee that are before it today.

It was so decided.

The President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote or position.

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Third Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records. May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401 the Assembly agreed that

"When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee".

May I also remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Third Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we shall take decisions in the same manner as in the Committee, unless notified otherwise in advance. This means that where a recorded or a separate vote was taken, we will do the same. I would also hope that we can proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Third Committee.

Agenda item 103

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Report of the Third Committee (A/50/626)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 23 of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 24.

Draft resolution I, entitled "Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.5/Rev.1.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/135).

The President: Draft resolution II, entitled "Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination", corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.6.

The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/136).

The President: Draft resolution III, entitled "Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination", corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.9.

This draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 50/137).

The President: The General Assembly will now take action on the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 24 of its report.

The draft decision, entitled "Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of elimination of racism and racial discrimination", was adopted by the Third Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly also wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 103?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 104

Right of peoples to self-determination

Report of the Third Committee (A/50/627)

The President: The General Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 22 of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination", and corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.4/Rev.1.

We shall now begin the voting process.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Kazakstan, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Draft resolution I was adopted by 106 votes to 18, with 31 abstentions (resolution 50/138).

[Subsequently, the delegations of Afghanistan, Angola, the Gambia and Guinea informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour; the delegation of Latvia had intended to abstain.]

The President: Draft resolution II, entitled "Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination", corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.7.

This draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/139).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination" and corresponds to document A/C.3/50/L.8.

We shall now begin the voting process.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger,

Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, United States of America

Abstaining:

Argentina, Georgia, Lithuania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Norway, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

Draft resolution III was adopted by 145 votes to 2, with 9 abstentions (resolution 50/140).

[Subsequently, the delegations of Afghanistan, Angola and Guinea informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour; the delegation of Latvia had intended to abstain.]

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 104?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 105 (*continued*)

Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Report of the Third Committee (A/50/628)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the four draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 25 of its report and the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 26.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.2.

This draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/141).

The President: Draft resolution II, entitled "Follow-up to the International Year of the Family", corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.10.

This draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/142).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Progress made and problems encountered in the struggle against illiteracy: a mid-decade review; Cooperation to achieve education for all". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.11.

This draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 50/143).

The President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.12/Rev.1.

This draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 50/144).

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 26 of its report. It is entitled "Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family".

The draft decision was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 105?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 106

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Third Committee (A/50/629)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 22 of its report and the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 23.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.3.

Draft resolution I was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/145).

The President: Draft resolution II, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, particularly its technical cooperation capacity", corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.15.

Draft resolution II was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/146).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.16.

Draft resolution III was adopted by the Third Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft resolution III?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 50/147).

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 23 of its report.

The draft decision, entitled "Document considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice", was adopted by the Third Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 106?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 108

International drug control

Report of the Third Committee (A/50/631)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 10 of its report.

The draft resolution is entitled "International action to combat drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.14.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 50/148).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 108?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 109

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Report of the Third Committee (A/50/632)

The President: I call on the representative of Ukraine who wishes to speak in explanation of vote or position before the vote.

Mr. Kulyk (Ukraine): With reference to the draft resolution entitled "Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees" recommended for adoption by the plenary Assembly by the Third Committee, the delegation of Ukraine has the honour to state the following:

Ukraine has always attached great importance to the problems of refugees. We highly appreciate the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and commend its staff for the competent and dedicated manner in which it has performed its duties in a country which during recent years has become an asylum for tens of thousands of refugees from different parts of the world, especially from States members of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Ukraine is particularly interested in strengthening the effectiveness of the activities of the UNHCR in settling the problems of refugees.

The delegation of Ukraine actively participated in the elaboration of the present draft resolution, but, regrettably, it does not adequately reflect some of Ukraine's concerns. Moreover, the provisions of operative paragraph 23 are not in conformity with the national legislation of Ukraine.

Conscious of the sensitive and complicated character of the issue and bearing in mind the numerous appeals from the representatives of different countries and organizations, the delegation of Ukraine will join in the consensus on the draft resolution on the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, on the understanding that the provisions of operative paragraph 23 will apply only to those countries that are parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, in accordance with the provisions of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.

Furthermore, Ukraine's consent to the provisions of operative paragraph 23 of the draft resolution should not, in any case, be interpreted as a granting of additional powers to the Commonwealth of Independent States on issues related to refugees.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the four draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 26 of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.17.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/149).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.18.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/150).

The President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Comprehensive consideration and review of the problems of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and related migratory movements". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.19.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 50/151).

The President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.20/Rev.1.

This draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 50/152).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 109?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 110

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Report of the Third Committee (A/50/633)

Draft resolution (A/50/L.61/Rev.1)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/832)

The President: The Assembly will first take a decision on two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 13 of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "The rights of the child". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.28.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Third Committee without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/153).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "The girl child". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.31/Rev.1.

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/154).

The President: The Assembly will next consider the draft resolution contained in document A/50/L.61/Rev.1, entitled "Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child".

I now call on the representative of Costa Rica to introduce the draft resolution.

Mrs. Castro de Barish (Costa Rica) (*interpretation from Spanish*): Mr. President, I thank you for calling on me to present the draft resolution now before the General Assembly in document A/50/L.61/Rev.1. The purpose of the draft resolution is to present to the plenary General Assembly for approval the recommendation of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Conference of States parties, which was convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations under article 50, paragraph 1, of the Convention held a meeting on 12 December 1995 to consider and take a decision on the amendment presented by the Government of Costa Rica to increase the number of experts described in article 43 as being

"of great moral integrity and recognized competence in matters related to the Convention".

In this regard my Government proposed that the word "ten" in article 43, paragraph 2, be replaced by the word "eighteen". This amendment was approved by consensus by the Conference of States parties.

The content of the first preambular paragraph of the draft resolution which I am now presenting has been recognized — that is, the valuable contribution the experts made to the Committee by considering so many serious problems adversely affecting boys and girls of the world. They are the most valuable human resource which we States have, but they are also the most vulnerable of all social sectors. This is evident from the valuable reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the violations of the rights and moral and physical integrity of children, the exploitation of all kinds and the cruel suffering resulting from armed conflicts. Those are just some of the most deplorable, critical situations facing children.

Furthermore, the spectacular increase in the number of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child — there are now 182, virtually reaching the goal of universality — shows the keen interest which this Convention has aroused in the international community. This fully justifies the proposal for an increase in the number of experts on the Committee on the Rights of the Child, which now has only 10. The increase in the number of States parties has led to a considerable increase in the work of the Committee, which has, among its more important functions, the consideration and evaluation of the reports of those States in relation to their freely contracted obligations. But that is not all that the experts have to do under their mandate. This can easily be seen in various articles of the Convention, but I need mention only article 45, as a whole, to demonstrate that they have important and varied obligations. Therefore, it is logical to give the Committee a number of experts commensurate with the number of States parties to the Convention.

The draft resolution which my delegation is now proposing to the General Assembly approves in operative paragraph 1 the amendment proposed to paragraph 2 of article 43 that replaces the word "ten" with the word "eighteen".

Operative paragraph 2 was revised in order to include a suggestion that had been made. It uses the terms of paragraph 2 of article 50 of the Convention. Its purpose is to urge and encourage States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure that the required two-thirds majority of the States parties accept the amendment as soon as possible so that it can enter into force.

Therefore, I respectfully and cordially appeal to all the representatives in the General Assembly to be good enough to adopt this draft resolution by consensus — following the example of the Conference on States Parties to the Convention.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.61/Rev.1.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution is contained in document A/50/832.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.61/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.61/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/155).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 110?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 111

Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Report of the Third Committee (A/50/634)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 10 of its report.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.29.

Draft resolution I was adopted by the Third Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 50/156).

The President: We now turn to draft resolution II, entitled "Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People". It corresponds to Third Committee document A/C.3/50/L.30.

Draft resolution II was adopted by the Third Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 50/157).

The President: I now call on the representative of the United States of America, who wishes to speak in explanation of position.

Mr. Gelder (United States of America): With respect to the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, my Government has not called for a vote but for the record wishes to note its reservations.

Concerning the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, my Government feels that any United Nations programme — no matter how laudable its goals — must make careful use of United Nations resources. In expending scarce resources, we must ensure that we are not engaging in duplicative functions. We also must scrupulously avoid activities that do not necessarily belong in the United Nations system.

Those are our concerns.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 111?

It was so decided.

The President: The Assembly will consider the remaining reports of the Third Committee tomorrow afternoon.

Agenda item 43 *(continued)*

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (A/50/L.51/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General (A/50/575 and Add.1)

Draft resolution (A/50/L.51/Rev.1)

The President: Members will recall that the Assembly held the debate on agenda item 43 at its 88th plenary meeting, on 11 December 1995.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.51/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.51/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/158).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 43?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 51

Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful use of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security

The President: Members will recall that on 22 September 1995 the Assembly decided to include this item in the agenda of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly.

It is my understanding that it would be desirable to defer consideration of this item to the fifty-first session of the General Assembly.

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to defer consideration of this item and to include it in the provisional agenda of the fifty-first session?

It was so decided.

The President: This concludes our consideration of agenda item 51.

Agenda item 56

Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait

The President: Members will recall that on 22 September 1995 the Assembly decided to include this item in the agenda of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly.

It is my understanding that it would be desirable to defer consideration of this item to the fifty-first session of the General Assembly.

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to defer consideration of this item and to include it in the provisional agenda of the fifty-first session?

It was so decided.

The President: This concludes our consideration of agenda item 56.

The meeting rose at 4.10 p.m.

United Nations A/50/PV.98

General Assembly
Fiftieth Session

Official Records

98th plenary meeting
Friday, 22 December 1995, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Diogo Freitas do Amaral . . . . . (Portugal)

The meeting was called to order at 11.20 a.m.

Agenda item 20 *(continued)*

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Reports of the Secretary-General (A/50/541 and Add.1, A/50/654)

Note by the Secretary-General (A/50/743)

Draft resolutions (A/50/L.43/Rev.1, A/50/L.58/Rev.1, A/50/L.64/Rev.2

The President: I call on the representative of the Sudan to introduce draft resolutions A/50/L.43/Rev.1 and A/50/L.64/Rev.2.

Mr. Mustafa (Sudan): It is both my honour and my pleasure to address the Assembly on behalf of the African Group to introduce draft resolution A/50/L.64/Rev.2, "Situation in Rwanda: international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in Rwanda".

The draft resolution before us recalls two similar or identical resolutions: 48/211 of 21 December 1993 and 49/23 of 2 December 1994, both adopted by the General Assembly during its forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions, respectively. It also recalls Security Council resolution 1029 (1995) of 12 December 1995, whereby the Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) for a final period, until 8 March 1996. The new mandate focuses on the exercise of good offices to assist the return of refugees, together with assistance to the Government of Rwanda in facilitating the return of refugees, assistance to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) by providing logistical support, and support for the protection of the International Tribunal for Rwanda until alternative arrangements are made.

The draft resolution we have before us notes the Secretary-General's report of 1 December 1995, the statement by the President of the Security Council of 17 October 1995, and the Secretary General's additional report on emergency international assistance for a solution to the problem of the refugees.

The draft resolution refers, as well, to the serious consequences of genocide, mass killings and the destruction of the economic, social, educational and administrative infrastructure, which form the appalling background and the legacy with which Rwanda has had to grapple in recent times.

95-87123 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one month of the date of the meeting*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, Room C-178. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

In view of regional implications of the Rwandese crisis, the draft resolution refers to the plan of action recommended by the Government of Rwanda, UNHCR and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) within the framework of the Arusha Peace Agreement of 4 August 1993. The draft resolution recognizes that this Agreement is the appropriate framework for national reconciliation.

Furthermore, the draft resolution encourages the Government of Rwanda to pursue its efforts with a view to creating conditions conductive to the voluntary return of refugees to their homeland. It commends the efforts exerted by the Secretary-General to draw the attention of the international community to the humanitarian situation in Rwanda. It welcomes, as well, the increased commitments and funds pledged for the Government's Programmes of National Reconciliation and Socio-Economic Rehabilitation Recovery. On the other hand, it calls on the international community to continue its support for Rwanda's rehabilitation programmes. It also welcomes the commitment of the Government of Rwanda to taking all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of all humanitarian personnel operating in the country.

The draft resolution addresses the intolerable conditions in Rwanda's prisons, as well as the delays in processing cases, by calling on both the international community and the Government of Rwanda to continue their efforts to improve the situation in prisons and to accelerate the processing of cases.

The draft resolution welcomes the indictments recently issued by the International Tribunal for Rwanda and calls on States to honour their obligations as established by the Security Council to arrest and detain persons suspected of genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. It encourages, as well, the Government of Rwanda to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Tribunal to establish an effective protective force for the Tribunal.

All States, in particular donor countries, are urged to contribute to the Secretary-General's trust fund for Rwanda, which was established in July 1994 in order to help finance humanitarian relief and rehabilitation programmes to be implemented in Rwanda.

The draft resolution requests the Secretary-General to consult with the Government of Rwanda and with relevant United Nations agencies on the nature of a continued United Nations presence in Rwanda after the date of the Security Council's final extension of UNAMIR's mandate until 8 March 1996.

Resolution 1029 (1995), adopted by the Security Council last week, requested the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on 1 February 1996 on the discharge by the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda of its mandate and progress towards the repatriation of refugees. Given that the tasks before Rwanda are huge and that it is likely to continue to require substantial and coordinated United Nations input, the draft resolution we have before us requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the same date about his consultations with the Government of Rwanda on the nature of that continued United Nations presence in Rwanda.

As the draft resolution before us is endorsed and co-sponsored by the African Group, together with a range of other States, it is the fervent wish of the African Group that the draft resolution be adopted by consensus.

It is also a great honour for me to introduce draft resolution A/50/L.43/Rev.1, "Emergency assistance to the Sudan", on behalf of the African Group and China, Honduras, India, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen.

This draft resolution — like similar texts that have been adopted at every session of the General Assembly since the forty-third session — acknowledges the cooperation by the Government of Sudan with the United Nations to facilitate relief operations. It also takes into consideration the ongoing review of Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) and stresses the need for that review to address the effectiveness, and for the efficiency of the Operation, as well as its transparency and the involvement of the Government of Sudan in the Operation. It further calls upon the international community to contribute generously to the Operation. It also calls upon the donor community and the United Nations system to provide financial, technical and medical assistance to combat malaria in the Sudan.

The draft resolution contains, in addition to provisions in previous resolutions, paragraphs stressing the importance of assuring the safety of personnel providing humanitarian assistance within the OLS and appealing to all parties to the conflict to continue negotiations towards the re-establishment of peace. The draft resolution further stresses that the OLS should operate within the principle of national sovereignty of the

Sudan and the framework of international cooperation in accordance with relevant international law.

As this consensus text was reached after very intensive consultations with interested parties, it is the wish of the co-sponsors that it be adopted without a vote, following the example of previous sessions.

On behalf of my delegation, the African Group and the co-sponsors of all the draft resolutions on assistance to African countries, I express our deep appreciation to His Excellency Ambassador Sucharipa, the Permanent Representative of Austria, for leading the informal consultations to the success reflected in the attainment of a consensus text. Our thanks go also to the able Secretariat and the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, as well as to those delegations which participated in the endeavours to reach consensus texts on assistance to countries or regions under item 20 (b).

The President: In view of the desire of members to dispose of this sub-item expeditiously, and at the request of the sponsors of draft resolution A/50/L.43/Rev.1, I should like to consult the Assembly with a view to proceeding immediately to consider the draft resolution contained in document A/50/L.43/Rev.1. In this connection, since the draft resolution has been circulated only this morning, it would be necessary to waive the relevant provision of rule 78 of the rules of procedure, which reads as follows:

> "As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any meeting of the General Assembly unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations not later than the day preceding the meeting".

Unless I hear any objection, I will take it that the Assembly agrees with the request of the sponsors of draft resolution A/50/L.43/Rev.1.

It was so decided.

The Assembly will first take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.43/Rev.1, entitled "Emergency assistance to the Sudan".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.43/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.43/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/58 J).

The President: The Assembly will next take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.58/Rev.1, entitled "Special emergency assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of Burundi".

Before we proceed to take action on the draft resolution, I should like to announce that since its introduction the following countries have become co-sponsors: Belgium, China and France.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.58/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.58/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/58 K).

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.64/Rev.2, entitled "Situation in Rwanda: international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in Rwanda".

Before we proceed to take action, I should like to announce that since the introduction of the draft resolution the following countries have become co-sponsors: Brazil, Costa Rica and the Netherlands.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.64/Rev.2?

Draft resolution A/50/L.64/Rev.2 was adopted (resolution 50/58 L).

The President: I now call on the representative of Spain, who wishes to speak in explanation of position.

May I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Mr. Aguirre de Cárcer (Spain) (*interpretation from Spanish*): After the adoption by consensus of the last resolution submitted under agenda item 20, I wish to intervene, on behalf of the European Union, to recall our position on this item.

The European Union has noted with concern that a substantial number of resolutions continue to be submitted which contain appeals of countries and regions for special economic assistance. While recognizing the existing needs, we urge Member States to subscribe to the efforts

undertaken with a view to streamlining the relevant decision-making processes of this Assembly.

We note with satisfaction the considerable progress made towards "clustering" all these resolutions. We must also continue to work towards their biennialization, unless there are exceptional circumstances that require yearly consideration. Much remains to be done, however, in order to achieve a shorter and more standardized format for these resolutions.

The European Union will also support, within the ongoing discussions under the review process of resolution 48/162, the inclusion of this item in the agenda of the Second Committee under a new cluster dealing both with the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations and with special economic assistance to individual countries or regions.

The President: There are no other representatives who wish to speak in explanation of position.

Before we conclude this stage of our consideration of this item, I am sure members of the Assembly will join me in thanking Ambassador Ernst Sucharipa of Austria, who undertook the long and arduous task of holding consultations and negotiations to reach a consensus on the resolutions adopted under agenda item 20.

We have concluded this stage of our consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 20.

Agenda item 26 *(continued)*

The situation in Burundi

Report of the Secretary-General (A/50/541 and Add.1)

Draft resolution (A/50/L.59/Rev.1)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/836)

The President: Members will recall that the Assembly held the debate on this item at its 95th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1995.

In connection with this item, the Assembly has before it draft resolution A/50/L.59/Rev.1.

Mr. Mustafa (Sudan): There are some slight revisions to be made to the fourteenth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A/50/L.59/Rev.1. The revised paragraph should read as follows:

> "Welcoming the joint message of the President and the Prime Minister of Burundi addressed to the Secretary-General and condemning the inflammatory broadcasts transmitted by the Radio de la Démocratie, Ijwi Ry'Abanya Gi Hugu, as well as those transmitted by other radio stations which incite ethnic hatred in Burundi".

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.59/Rev.1, as orally revised.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution is contained in document A/50/836.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.59/Rev.1 as orally revised?

Draft resolution A/50/L.59/Rev.1, as orally revised, was adopted (resolution 50/159).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 26?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 24 *(continued)*

Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

Reports of the Secretary-General (A/50/490 and A/50/520)

Letter from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences (A/50/404/Add.3)

Draft resolution (A/50/L.40/Rev.1)

The President: Members will recall that the Assembly concluded the debate on this item at its 79th meeting, on 4 December 1995.

In connection with this item, the Assembly has before it draft resolution A/50/L.40/Rev.1.

In connection with the draft resolution, I should like to draw the attention of members to a letter dated 14 December 1995 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences, circulated as document A/50/404/Add.3.

I now call on the representative of Ethiopia to introduce draft resolution A/50/L.40/Rev.1.

Mr. Eteffa (Ethiopia): Allow me at the outset to express our deep appreciation to the Ambassador of Belgium for skilfully leading the negotiations on this draft resolution at the international level.

As a representative of the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and on behalf of African States, I have the honour to introduce draft resolution A/50/L.40/Rev.1, "Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s".

It will be recalled that on 18 December 1991 the General Assembly adopted resolution 46/151, the annex to which contained the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. The New Agenda contained an expression of the renewed commitment of the international community to support Africa's own efforts to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development. The international community accepted the principle of shared responsibility and partnership with Africa and committed itself to giving full support to African development. The question of follow-up and monitoring of the measures taken so far, and of how to proceed in the future, including the convening of a mid-term review of the implementation of the New Agenda, was viewed as essential in resolution 46/151.

The draft resolution before us is in pursuance of that decision and contains 15 preambular and 12 operative paragraphs.

The preambular part basically highlights the major decisions taken by the United Nations General Assembly and the Organization of African Unity as well as the summary made by the President of the Economic and Social Council during the discussion of the Council's high-level segment on the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda. The preambular paragraphs also highlight how exogenous factors, in particular the problems of external debt, inadequate resource flow, lack of progress in the diversification process of the African economies and the negative impact of the Uruguay Round agreements, affected the socio-economic recovery of Africa.

The operative part of the draft resolution takes note of the report of the Secretary General on financial intermediation and the diversification of African commodities and concentrates mainly on the mid-term-review mechanism of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s.

While preparing this draft resolution the African Group consciously avoided raising at this juncture issues of debt, flow of resources, diversification of commodities and questions of trade in general as subjects of negotiation. The African Group believes that the mid-term review of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda will provide to Africa and the international community an opportunity to conduct an in-depth assessment of the actions so far taken to implement the New Agenda and the measures needed for sustained economic growth and sustainable development beyond the 1990s, as well as to set out new and corrective policies and measures for strengthened external support.

In substantive terms, while operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 make reference to the various reports of the Secretary General and the summary made by the President of the Economic and Social Council during the Council's high-level segment, operative paragraph 4 decides to establish an ad hoc committee of the whole of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly to prepare the mid-term review of the New Agenda, as provided for in the annex to resolution 46/151.

Operative paragraphs 5 to 9 deal with the modalities of the mid-term review as well as indicating the roles to be played by African countries, the United Nations system and specialized agencies, the Organization of African Unity and other relevant institutions in the mid-term-review process. Although the Bretton Woods institutions are not mentioned by name, it is our understanding that those institutions should play important roles in the development of Africa.

Operative paragraphs 10 to 12 request the Secretary-General to come up with projected resource requirements for the implementation of the New Agenda and to report to the fifty-first session of the General Assembly on the work of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole and the implementation of the resolution.

Finally, on behalf of the African States, I request the unanimous adoption of this draft resolution by the General Assembly.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.40/Rev.1.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.40/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/50/L.40/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 50/160).

The President: Before we conclude our consideration of agenda item 24, I should like to thank Ambassador Alex Reyn of Belgium, who undertook the task of conducting the consultations which resulted in the consensus resolution adopted under this item.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 24?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 161 *(continued)*

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

Report of the Secretary-General (A/50/670)

Draft resolution (A/50/L.66)

The President: Members will recall that the Assembly concluded the debate on this item at its 86th plenary meeting, on 8 December 1995.

In connection with this item, the Assembly has before it draft resolution A/50/L.66.

I call on the representative of Chile to introduce the draft resolution.

Mr. Maquieira (Chile) (*interpretation from Spanish*): On behalf of the co-sponsors listed in document A/50/L.66 and of Algeria, Austria, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guyana, Indonesia, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Nepal, Norway, Pakistan, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tunisia, Turkey and Zambia, it is my pleasure to introduce the draft resolution on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development.

The draft resolution contains basically three parts: the preamble, and the operative portion, which is divided into two parts. I shall briefly highlight the outstanding aspects of each of the components of the resolution.

The fundamental aspect of the preamble, aside from citing the relevant resolutions, is the appreciation expressed to the Government and people of Denmark for the hospitality they extended to the participants at the Summit. Also highlighted is the policy decision taken at the highest level by the international community to give the highest priority to social development and human well-being now and into the twenty-first century by adopting the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action.

As regards the operative portion, it has been subdivided into two parts, the outstanding aspects of which are the following.

The first part, which refers to the critical importance of national action and international cooperation for social development, includes some of the objectives from the Programme of Action and the policy Declaration in a selective manner, yet without establishing priorities. That is the case, for example, of the reaffirmation of the pledge made by the Heads of State and Government to give highest priority to national, regional and international policies and actions for the promotion of social progress; the recognition of the necessity to create a framework for action to place people at the centre of development; the emphasis on the need for a renewed and massive political will at the national and international levels to invest in people and in social well-being; and the recognition that social development and the implementation of the Programme of Action are primarily the responsibility of Governments, and that international cooperation and assistance are essential for their full implementation. Finally, on this aspect, emphasis must be placed on the need for promotion of an integrated and multidimensional approach and the mobilization of financial resources at the national and international levels. This is contained in operative paragraphs 14, 15, 16 and 17 of the draft resolution, where various aspects of financial matters are dealt with, including the 20/20 proposal.

The second part of the operative portion of the draft resolution refers specifically to the role of the United Nations system. Generally speaking, it establishes a three-tiered structure at the intergovernmental level. Yet, at the same time, it includes the multidimensional and multisectoral aspects of the implementation of the Programme of Action in such a way that it relates the

organization of the intergovernmental process to what is being developed by the specialized agencies and other interested sectors. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this part of the draft resolution is that it recognizes that the multidimensional approach exists and that there are various institutions and agencies that contribute to the implementation of the progress, without interfering with each other or bothering about hierarchy. Consequently, this aspect, the major detail of which concentrates on the intergovernmental section, recognizes that there are three levels: the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission for Social Development.

As regards the General Assembly, especially its functions as a principal organ of the United Nations, the draft resolution decides to hold a special session of the General Assembly in the year 2000 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and to consider further actions.

As regards the Economic and Social Council, the draft resolution reaffirms that the Council will provide overall guidance and oversee system-wide coordination in the implementation of the outcome of the Summit. It requests the Council, in the light of the progress towards implementing the outcome of the Summit, and consistent with the mandates of the Charter and in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, to continue examining ways to strengthen its role, authority, structures, resources and processes and to bring specialized agencies into a closer working relationship with it in the implementation of the outcome of the Summit and also in the implementation of the outcomes of other conferences, which must be integrated with that of the Summit.

The following provisions of the draft resolution refer in more detail to the Commission for Social Development. As a result of the Copenhagen Summit, a process of marked revitalization of that Commission is required. Consequently, the draft resolution calls on the Commission to develop a multi-year programme of work to the year 2000, selecting specific themes and addressing them from an integrated perspective. Further on, endorsing the first resolution on reform of the Economic and Social Council, it requests the Commission to adapt its mandate, to integrate sectoral issues, to review its methods of work and to establish the practice of inviting experts to contribute to its work to ensure that this work is not limited to the intergovernmental process but enjoys the participation of civil society.

With the three tiers of the intergovernmental process established — the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the Commission for Social Development — the draft resolution goes on to request various entities to contribute to the process. Such is the case with the regional commissions, which should meet biennially on appropriate issues of the implementation of the World Summit for Social Development.

The draft resolution takes note of the creation of the well-known task forces for the follow-up to the Summit, invites the International Labour Organization, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to continue to be actively involved in the follow-up to the Summit, and, finally, requests the Secretary-General to establish within the Secretariat an entity with clearly assigned responsibilities to assist with the follow-up to the social Summit.

In conclusion, I believe that the significant characteristic of this draft resolution is that it does not focus only on the intergovernmental level, but also integrates, in a coordinated way, the work that other entities can carry out.

The draft resolution was negotiated with much interest and enthusiasm, and I would like to express appreciation to all the delegations which made contributions to the drafting. We think that the draft resolution should be adopted by consensus.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/50/L.66.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/50/L.66?

Draft resolution A/50/L.66 was adopted (resolution 50/161).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 161?

It was so decided.

Reports of the Fifth Committee

The President: The General Assembly will now consider the reports of the Fifth Committee on agenda items 125, 126, 131, 132, 137, 138, 158, 159, 166 and 12.

If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote or position.

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401 the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee".

May I remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Fifth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we shall take decisions in the same manner as in the Fifth Committee.

Agenda item 125

Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/819)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The draft decision was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 125.

Agenda item 126

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/818)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 5 of its report.

The draft decision was adopted by the Fifth Committee.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 126.

Agenda item 131

Financing of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/827)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 5 of its report.

The draft decision was adopted by the Fifth Committee.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 131.

Agenda item 132

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/820)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The draft decision was adopted by the Fifth Committee.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 132.

Agenda item 137

Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/828)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The draft decision was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 137.

Agenda item 138

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/821)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 5 of its report.

The draft decision was adopted by the Fifth Committee.

May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 138.

Agenda item 158

Programme planning

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/795)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 5 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft decision.

May I take it that the Assembly also wishes to adopt it?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 158?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 159

Human resources management

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/834)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft decisions recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

Draft decision I is entitled "Amendments to the Staff Rules".

The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision I.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision I was adopted.

The President: Draft decision II is entitled "Human resources management".

The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision II.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft decision II was adopted.

The President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 159.

Agenda item 166

Admission of the World Tourism Organization to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/822)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 5 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft decision.

May I consider that the Assembly also wishes to adopt it?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 166?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 12 *(continued)*

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/794)

The President: The report of the Fifth Committee in document A/50/794 deals with those chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council which were allocated to the Fifth Committee.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 4 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft decision.

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of those chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council which were allocated to the Fifth Committee?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 53

Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

The President: Members will recall that on 22 September 1995 the Assembly decided to include this item in the agenda of the fiftieth session. It is my understanding that there is no request to consider the item at the present session.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to defer consideration of this item to the fifty-first session and to include it in the provisional agenda of that session?

It was so decided.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 53?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 7

Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations: note by the Secretary-General (A/50/442)

The President: As members are aware, in accordance with the provisions of Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations, and with the consent of the Security Council, the Secretary-General is mandated to notify the General Assembly of matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security that are being dealt with by the Security Council and of matters with which the Council has ceased to deal.

In this connection the General Assembly has before it a note by the Secretary-General issued as document A/50/442.

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of that document?

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 12.10 p.m.